

FISCAL NOTE

SB 223 - HB 543

March 20, 2003

SUMMARY OF BILL:

- Requires nursing homes to conduct criminal background checks on any person that provides direct care to a resident or patient. Background checks would have to be done before or within seven days of employment.
- Requires the employees to:
 - Provide work and personal references
 - Release information to verify if individual has been convicted of a felony
 - Supply a fingerprint sample and submit to a criminal history check
 - Release any information needed for a criminal background check
- Prohibits nursing homes from disclosing this information. Any cost of the background check is to be paid by the nursing home or the employee. Allows nursing home costs for the background checks as an allowable cost under TennCare.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures \$45,600

Increase State Revenues - \$45,600

Assumes:

- an increase in state expenditures to enforce the requirements of the bill, however such expense can be absorbed within existing resources.
- such facilities will require only TBI records checks on 1,900 employees at \$24.00 per check since the bill does not contain the specific language required to conduct FBI records checks

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James A. Davenport, Executive Director

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